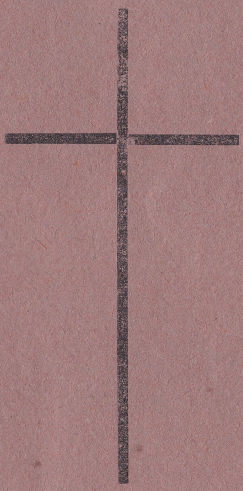
ST. STEPHEN'S CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
MILNROW

The Messenger



DECEMBER
~~OCTOBER~~, 1972

PRICE 2p.

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THE MESSENGER

*

A MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY NEW YEAR

*

DECEMBER 1972

Dear Friends,

If we have a gift to give
Let us give it cheerfully.
If we have a gift to get
Let us take it gratefully;
For Jesus made the whole of life
A happy life for living,
By living for the other's sake
Not "getting" but by giving.

No doubt most of us this Christmas will be both getting and giving presents, cards and greetings, as the Season of Goodwill comes yet again.

This period of the year is one of universal busyness. There never is enough time to prepare everything for Christmas. In the hustle and bustle of shopping for presents, cards, food and all the other items which contribute to the happiness of the festivities, we are inclined to wonder if the real meaning of Christmas gets crowded out in the hectic confusion of the previous weeks, but after the preparations are finished and we sit back and relax, I think to all Christians the message of Christmas comes through once again; the message of Love, and if we can carry this spirit of Christmas over into the New Year we shall surely be keeping our Lord's commandment: That we love one another.

"By Living for the other's sake
Not 'getting' but by GIVING."

May I extend to you all my greetings for Christmas and the New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Allan Roberts

BAPTISM

On October 8th at St. Stephen's:
WARREN MICHAEL, son of Glenda & Michael Wright of 9 Woburn Close, Mrs. E. Gillon officiating.
We apologise for omitting this notice in the November Messenger.

IN MEMORIAM

CHARLOTTE PARKINSON, 31 Shefiff Street, aged 84 yrs.

JANE STEELE, 81 Royds Street, Aged 96 yrs.

Our sympathy is extended to both families.

****

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS: See page 12

****

TOY SERVICE

Sunday, 3rd December 11.00 am.

Toys and gifts will be received by
Mr. & Mrs. A. Busill
and passed on to Rochdale Lions Club

CHRISTMAS CALENDAR:

Sunday, 17th December at 6.00 pm...CAROL SERVICE
with special Christmas Music

*

Sunday, 24th December at 11.30 pm. -
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

This takes the place of normal evening worship. You are cordially invited to join in this special candlelight service to celebrate once again the coming of our Lord.

Mr. A. Roberts will conduct the service.

*

FAMILY CHURCH CHRISTMAS DANCE
Saturday, 9th December * 7.00 - 11.00 pm

Dancing * BILL DUNCAN TRIO * Games
25p Adults..... 15p Children

- -

JUNIOR CHURCH NEWS - MILNROW

PANTOMIME

Bookings for the Pantomime at the Oldham Colliseum have now been confirmed for TUESDAY - 2nd JANUARY- please note alternative date.

Transport will leave the church at approx. 1.30 pm.

*

The BEGINNERS Dept., had a visitor on Sunday, 5th November. He was Mr. E. Hall of Beechfield Road, Milnrow. He showed the children slides of Africa; children playing around their "Mud Huts." Also featured was the Salvation Army School Chikankata, Zambie, where Mr. Hall's son is a teacher for 3 years.

*

CENSUS.....CHRISTMAS.....1972

If you are approached by a member of the JUNIOR Department during the first week in December, to complete a Census Form, we do ask for your co-operation in this project.

The series of Christmas lessons begin with the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem to be counted, in the same way that we were counted in the 1971 Census. The children will be conducting their own kind of census, which will result in a graph being complied showing how Christmas will be spent. Attention will then be drawn to the fact that several people will be quite alone.

*

The SENIOR Department are presenting a:

"GARDEN PARTY FILM SHOW"

on Friday, 8th December
at 7.30 pm.

COFFEE * SUPPER * BRING & BUY

Tickets 12p. * Children 6p (pay at door)

PILOT PAGE

On Sunday 12th October a Pilot enrolment service was conducted by Mr. A. Roberts who enrolled 5 new pilots into St. Stephen's company. They were:

Ian Andrew
Della Clough
Alistair Hoy
Andrew Lynch
Simon Rothwell

These recruits were presented with Ordinary Seaman badges, Pilot Service Records, and Pilot Voyage Charts. These service records mark the pilots' progress through the company and the voyage charts give details of the projects which the company will undertake in this winter session.

Mr. Collins, the Pilot Captain, read out the names of the 17 members who have been promoted during the past 12 months, and Mr. Roberts awarded promotion badges to:

Linda Mann - promoted from Ordinary Seaman to Acting Able Seaman

Fiona Collins & Stephen Collins - both promoted from Acting Able Seaman to Able Seaman

*

A New Recruit Records Her Impression:

I started Pilots and I like it very mutch. When we get there we pull our coats off and go to our teacher or play games - I dont like games at all. Mr. Collins shewts all a board - the teachers ar Mrs. Read, Mrs. Brewin, Mrs. Colins - Mr. Colins is captin. Mr. Meler and Mr. Looces ar teachers as well. We made a lantern it is a Haloween Lantern. We have Defiant Watch that I am in and Victery is the other one. When we know our prayer and promis we get badgis whithe a ship on.

.....Della Clough (Age 7 yrs)

TWENTY ONE CLUB

Members of our men's "21 Club" visited the Mechanical Engineering Department of Salford University on Thursday 14th November and were conducted around by Dr. Roy Howarth who is both a Lecturer in the Department and a club member. Afterwards we were entertained to a buffet supper in University House.

Every event so far organised by the 21 Club Committee has proved most enjoyable but has lacked sufficient support by the menfolk of our church. Come on you lads, give us a bit of support. It's your club too.

LADIES GUILD

Thirty members of the Ladies Guild travelled by coach to a Thanksgiving Service at Hallfold United Reformed Church on Tuesday 7th November.

The service took place in the New Sanctuary (which is well worth visiting) and was conducted by Mrs. Henderson of Newhey, who spoke about "Praying."

The choir presented some well-known hymns with modern settings and the evening was concluded with a delicious supper.

*

A Fashion Show and Seconds Sale was held on Tuesday 21st November. Despite the dreadful weather there was a very good attendance. Clothes were modelled and then sold.

Coffee and biscuits were provided and the evening raised £13 for Ladies Guild Funds.

MICHAELMAS MARKET

Over £194 was raised at the Michaelmas Market held on the 11th November.
Sincere thanks to all who sold coupons, made articles for sale and helped on the day.

"EE THAT'S WHOSIT'S MOTHER"

As a change from watching old films on the television, a good sized audience came to St. Stephen's on November 15th to see old slides of Milnrow.

This was a Milnrow "Lit & Sci" Production directed by the famous Sam Butterworth who is surely our answer to Cecil B. De Milne. In this particular production the juvenile lead was played by a youthful Alec Rae who was seen in a pose on the steps of the "Blue Store" in a more humble role than we usually see him when presiding over Michaelmas Markets. Other shots showed St.Stephen's in a state of disrepair, but with the front window intact; Milnrow's tramway;"The Stump and Pie Lad" and a superb photograph of a gentleman who was a "snowshifter in the summer and a haymaker in the winter," but with a dog the size of his nobody would argue.

These slide shows make splendid entertainment puzzling the young and making the older generations gasp with recognition. Our grateful thanks go to Mr. Butterworth and to Mr. & Mrs. Hignett who assisted with the projection.

The event raised £8.40 for World Missions.

THE SENIOR DEPARTMENT TRIP TO BLACKPOOL

"..... We got lost in the maze, terrified in the rockets, wet through on the logs, sick in the Noahs Ark and had a galloping time on the Grand National. We munched our way through three doughnuts. Three lads stopped us and asked where Blackpool was so we said 'go and jump'. On the coach we nearly killed ourselves with laughing.....

....Pauline Steward.

(Now who said "it's great to be young?)

NORTH INDIA

CITY LIFE - The cities of North India are crowded and busy. There are many people about; street traders spread their wares on the pavement, and people who have no homes sleep on the pavement as well. Many make a living by begging. In some towns big factories are being built and people flock to them for work.

NEW DELHI is the capital city. The Parliament buildings are modern, and parts of the city are very beautiful, with lawns and gardens. However, it is built in the middle of a desert and it is therefore difficult to get away from the dust.

CALCUTTA is a famous port, where millions of people live in very crowded conditions.

BOMBAY -Old gateway of India; a great city where people from all over India come to live and work.

CLIMATE - Most of North India has hot, dry weather for the greater part of the year. In the summer the temperature may reach 117°F although in the winter it is sometimes quite cold especially in the hills. During the monsoon season there is heavy rain nearly every day and between storms the air is hot and sticky. The Great Plain watered by the river Ganges is one of the most densely populated areas in the world.

VILLAGE LIFE - Many Indian people are going to towns to find work, but the majority still live in villages and earn their livelihood by working on the land. There are many others who are very poor, who have no jobs and hardly any food. The houses in the villages are huddled together, and the fields stretch out around them. In the morning all the people go out to work in the fields, returning in the evening when the women prepare meals. Some villages have a primary school and children walk to the nearest town to attend a secondary school. There is often a Hindu or Sikh temple or Muslim mosque in the village. Sometimes there is a Christian Church.

It has been estimated that by 1973 there will be over 1½ million coloured people in England and Wales situated mainly in the conurbations. They tend to belong to the younger age goups and are mostly employed in unskilled work. It has also been estimated that there are about 55 million white people and a lot of them are clearly worried about the coloured influx especially those who have to compete for unskilled work. It is difficult under these circumstances for either side to see the others as people rather than as "them."

Pray for the Community Relations Councils and the Race Relations Board. Pray for the British Council of Churches Race Relations Units. Pray for Christian groups - both black and white - in this country that they might set the example of presenting the Lordship of Christ and developing mutual understanding to combat racialism. Pray for the "do-gooders" that they might do good and for the trouble causers of all races thay they might at last see sense.

******

NO COMMENT

The "Rochdale Observer" reported that on the Sunday before the Rochdale Bye-election the three candidates all read lessons at Thrum Hall Methodist Church.

Was there any significance in the actual choice of readings ?

Councillor Trippier (Cons.) read from Psalm 106: "We have sinned with our fathers; We have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly."

Councillor Cunliffe (Lab.) read from Amos Chapter 7: "Thy land shall be divided by line and thou shalt die in a polluted land."

Alderman Smith (Lib.) read Romans Chapter 13: "The powers that be are ordained of God."

A WORD OF THANKS

A word of thanks must go to those people at Littleborough who, during the Every Person Canvas, volunteered to visit the sick and the housebound. Since the departure of the Revd. Glyn Jenkins they have been doing a grand job in a most conscientious way at a time when such willingness is vitally important. Keep up the good work through the winter months.

If you happen to know of anyone who has been taken ill or would appreciate a visit please let Mrs. K. Hill know.

LESLEY CRAWFORD GOES OVERBOARD OFF CARDBOARD

Lesley Crawford has recently come home after nearly four weeks in Rochdale Children's hospital with a boken leg. It all happendd when four year old Lesley tried the popular trick of sliding down a slope on a piece of cardboard. This is usually great fun but on this occasion not for Lesley. Get well soon, pet.

To all other summer toboganists: you have been warned.

FAIR WISHES

The Revd. and Mrs. G. Jenkins sent their best wishes to us all and expressed the hope that the Autumn Fair went well.

TOY SERVICE

December 10th 10.30 am.

Gifts will be received by Mr. & Mrs. F. Beattie and passed on for distribution to Mr. R. Vincent (Probation Officer.)

Please give something this Christmas to those children who get less than their fair share of life's joys.

COOLING IT

1. On November 2nd the Pilots had a bonfire supper but no fire.

2. Pilots will not meet on 7th and 28th December.

HEATHER HONEY ?

The Busy Bees enjoyed the hospitality of Mrs. Barbara Kershaw for their monthly "At Home". Arrangements were made to hold the Christmas meal at Kershaw House, Luddendenfoot.

AUTUMN FAIR RESULT

It is, of course, impossible to measure the smount of effort that goes into a venture like the Autumn Fair, but we have been given a result in hard cash:

Young People's Stall	£67.70
Tea Room	45.12
Drapery	36.97
Busy Bees	15.48
Men's Stall	22.45
Refreshment Stall	23.12
Admission	5.90
Donations	47.00
	£263.74

Coupon Sales:

Mrs. Crossley	£105
Mrs. Cockcroft	92
Mrs. M.G. Hill	48
Mrs. Mellor	41
Mrs. Binns	40
Mrs. V. Simpson	25
Mrs. Moss	4
	£355

That result looks good in any language.

LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

++++++++++++++++++++

December

Fri.	1st	7.30 pm.	District Meeting, Oldham.
Sun.	3rd	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Lord
Tues.	5th	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild - Mrs. Lord (Lancashire Dialect)
			Busy Bees' Christman meal
Sat.	9th		Conference at Waddow Hall
			U.R.C. North West Province
Sun.	10th	10.30 am.	Toy Service
			Rev. R. Parker B.A., B.D.
		6.00 pm.	" (Communion)
Tue.	12th	7.30 pm.	Film "Crossroads"
Thur.	14th		Pilots
Sun.	17th	10.30 am.	Mr. A. Roberts
		6.00 pm.	Carol Service - Mr. J. Lord
Tue.	19th		Women's Guild & Men's Fellowship Party at Dearnley Guest House.
Thur.	21st		Pilots
Sun.	24th	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Thexton (Whitefield) (Communion)
Mon.	25th	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Lord (Short Family Service)
Sun.	31st	10.30 am.	Mrs. E. Gillon

January

Mon.	1st	1.30 pm.	(prompt) Coach will leave the school for trip to Pantomime.
Fri.	5th	7.30 pm.	District Meeting (Middleton).

*****

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

Dec. 3rd	"He's coming" Luke 1: 26-38	Mrs. C. Hill
10th	"The Song of Mary" Luke 1: 39-56	Esther Bennett
17th	"Birth of the Herald" Luke 1: 57-80	Elizabeth Leach
24th	"The Birth of Christ" Luke 2: 1-20	Mr. S. Moss
31st	"The Wise Men" Matt. 2: 1-12	Mrs. Vincent

CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

DOOR STEWARDS

Dec.	3rd	Mr. W. Barker	Mr. F. Ingham	10.30
	10th	Mrs. B. Hartley	Mr. H.N. Hill	10.30
		Mr. A. Booth	Mr. E. Holt	6.00
	17th	Mr. B. Hill	Mr. F. Beattie	10.30
		Mrs. E. Crossley	Mr. J. Lord	6.00
	24th	Mr. J. Nairn	Mr. J. Holt	10.30
	31st	Mr. J. Hill	Mr. W. Barker	10.30
Jan.	7th	Mr. F. Beattie	Mrs. A. Stott	10.30

ELDERS COMMUNION ROTA

Dec.	10th	Mr. J. Nairn	Mr. F. Simpson	10.30
	24th	Mr. J. Holt	Mr. J. Lord	6.00

COFFEE ROTA

Dec.	3rd	Mrs. B. Holt	Mrs. J. Allison
	10th	Mrs. B. Hartley	Mrs. J. Hobbs
	17th	Mrs. S. Moss	Mrs. W. Spinks
	24th	Mrs. J. Law	Mrs. D. Mallinson
	31st	Mrs. B. Leach	Mrs. A. Merrick
Jan.	7th	Mrs. E. Crawford	Mrs. J. Simpson

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

Dec.	3rd	Mrs. E. Holt
	10th	Mrs. J.A. Leach
	17th	Mrs. Mellor
	24th	Mrs. H. Jones
	31st	Mrs. R. Vincent
Jan.	7th	Mrs. M.G. Hill

Spare a thought! When you don't turn up for your duty, someone????? has to do your turn. This applies to all rotas.

******

OFFERTORIES

		Cash	Envelopes
Oct.	22nd	£1.94	£8.79
	29th	2.30	9.10
Nov.	5th	1.62	11.23
	12th	3.07	12.40

CHURCH DUTIES - ST. STEPHENS

FAMILY WORSHIP DOOR STEWARDS

Dec. 3rd	Mrs. F. Whitworth	Mrs. J. Duffy
10th	Mr. L. Whittaker	Mrs. F. Rae
17th	Mr. G. Buckley	Mr. A. Rae
24th	Mr. H. Mellor	Mrs. F. Butterworth
31st	Mr. D. Fursey	Miss M. Wood
Jan. 7th	Coun. J. Harrison	Counc. I. Royle

ELDERS ROTA

EVENING DOOR STEWARDS		PIANIST/ORGANIST EVENING WORSHIP
Dec. 3rd	Mrs. E. Gillon	Mrs. C. Hey
10th	Mr. B. Clough	Mr. J. Emmott
17th	Mr. G. Whitworth	Mr. D. Logan
24th	Mr. J. Emmott	Mr. D. Lynch
31st	Mrs. M. Howarth	Mrs. C. Hey
Jan. 7th	Mr. J. Wild	Mr. D. Logan

COMMUNION ROTA

Dec. 3rd	Mr. G. Whitworth	Mrs. M. Howarth
Jan. 7th	Mr. B. Clough	Mr. J. Emmott

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

Dec. 3rd	Mrs. H. Whitehead	Mrs. Greenhalgh
10th	Mrs. E. Garside	Mrs. J. Calow
17th	Mrs. A. Whitworth	Mrs. N. Settle
24th	Mrs. C. Hey	Mrs. M. Mellor
31st	Mrs. J. Cudworth	Mrs. A. Roberts
Jan. 7th	Mrs. K. Reid	Mrs. P. Royle

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

Many thanks for all your co-operation during 1972.

Names are still required for Family Worship Door Stewards and Coffee Rota Staff.
Apply to Church Secretary.

ST. STEPHEN'S DIARY

December

Sun.	3rd	11.00 am.	Mr. A. Roberts - TOY SERVICE
		6.00 pm.	Mr. W. Caffrey (Service of Word & Sacrament)
Mon.	4th	6.30 pm.	Pilots (and each Monday)
Tues.	5th	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild Christmas Party 75p
Fri.	8th	7.30 pm.	"Garden Party Film Show"
Sat.	9th	7.00 pm.	Family Church Annual Dance
Sun.	10th	11.00 am.	Mr. J. Thexton
		6.00 pm.	Mr. A. Cooper
Wed.	13th	7.30 pm.	Elders Meeting
Sun.	17th	11.00 am.	Mr. D. S. Nuttall
		6.00 pm.	Mrs.E. Gillon - CAROL SERVICE
Mon.	18th	From 6.45 pm.	Carol Singing round the district.
Sun.	24th	11.00 am.	Mr. J.M. Farraday
		11.30 pm.	Mr. A. Roberts
Sun.	31st	11.00 am.	To be announced
		6.00 pm.	"

January

Tues.	2nd	1.30 pm.	Coach leaves for trip to Pantomime.
Sun.	7th	11.00 am.	To be announced
		6.00 pm.	Rev. W. Purvis (Service of Word & Sacrament)

****

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

December	3rd	Mrs. J. Calow	Mrs. Clowes
	10th	Mrs. L. Prince	
	17th	Mrs. D. Emmott	
	24th	Mrs. N. Stott	
	31st	Mrs. E. Garside	Mrs. I Collins

OFFERTORIES

	Cash			
	am.	pm.	Envelopes	Total
October	£17.65	£10.89	£72.50	£101.04

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and

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*

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*

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